



Congressman Kevin McCarthy's Recent Actions on Valley Fever:

- In November 2022, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) released a Notice of Special Interest to “highlight NIAID’s interest in supporting research in the areas outlined in the NIAID Strategic Plan For Research To Develop a Valley Fever Vaccine.” You can learn more about this announcement [here](#).
- McCarthy and Schweikert secured a [provision](#) in a House Appropriations Committee report accompanying the Fiscal Year 2022 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act that directed the NIH submit to Congress a 10-year strategic plan to develop a Valley Fever vaccine by 2031.
- In September 2022, NIAID submitted a “Strategic Plan for Research to Develop a Valley Fever Vaccine” to Congress consistent with the committee report’s requirements. You can read the plan [here](#).

Additional actions taken by Congressman McCarthy to combat Valley Fever can be found below:

- [Securing](#) \$4.5 million from NIH in 2022 to establish Valley Fever Research Centers to enhance research into Valley Fever diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines;
- [Introducing](#) comprehensive legislation (H.R. 5566) to combat Valley Fever in the short, medium, and long term;
 - Two provisions from Rep. McCarthy’s bill were included in the House-passed Food and Drug User Fee Reauthorization bill (H.R. 7667) that would require the Food and Drug Administration to hold a public workshop and issue a “guidance for industry document” to bring together patients, doctors, and researchers and streamline the development of new Valley Fever drugs and vaccines. The second provision would provide qualified infectious disease product (QIDP) incentives to antifungal biologics, such as Valley Fever vaccine; and,
- [Leading](#) a Valley Fever roundtable in the U.S. Capitol with scientists, researchers, constituent patients, officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the NIH, and other Members of Congress to continue to increase awareness of this disease at the highest levels of government.
 - CA-23 includes Kern and Tulare Counties, which record among the highest number of Valley Fever cases in the Golden State. In 2021, Kern County reported 2,822 cases (#1) and Tulare County reported 319 cases (#6) according to data from the California Department of Public Health.